

Inside Wallops

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Blind Students Experience Careers in Rocket Science

Twelve blind high school students from across the United States are experiencing careers as rocket scientists July 15 through 23 as part of a partnership between NASA and the National Federation of the Blind (NFB).

The students will be participating in a program called "Rocket On!", a week-long rocket science academy of the NFB Jernigan Institute in Baltimore.

NASA and NFB instructors will present workshops at the Institute on the history of rocketry, basic rocket physics, and basic electronics.

In addition, the students will learn basic rocket trajectory planning, build electronic circuits for the sensors they will fly, and practice pad operations for the rocket they will launch July 20 from Wallops Island.

"This is the second year NASA has supported the NFB Rocket On! camp," said Phil Eberspacher, Sounding Rocket Program Office Chief. "We are looking forward to challenging these students to showcase their potential as possible future employees of NASA."

"Through the NFB, these students receive mentoring and guidance from blind adults who demonstrate that blindness need not limit your dreams," said

Mark Riccobono, Director of Education for the NFB Jernigan Institute.

While at Wallops on July 18 and 19, the students will participate in a launch review with NASA personnel, integrate



NASA Photo

The NFB Whozit Rocket launches from Wallops during the 2004 Rocket On! Camp.

their experiments with NASA support systems, and conduct a practice countdown.

Reporting for work at 4:30 a.m., July 20, the students will begin the countdown procedures towards a 6 a.m. launch of the 10.5 foot rocket. The launch window is 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. with a backup launch day is July 21.

During the countdown, the students will be mentored by members of the NASA launch team. The students will support range safety, project management, radar and telemetry support, web cast, the test director, and the launch activities at the pad and in the blockhouse. One lucky student will be selected to push the launch button.

Through audible signals, the students will be able to determine the readiness of their experiments and the rocket. The student-built electrical circuits will allow them to measure light, temperature, acceleration and pressure during the rocket's flight, which is estimated to reach 6,000 feet.

Later in the day back at the Jernigan Institute, the students will begin analyzing the data collected from the four sensors during the flight. They will present their preliminary results during presentations on July 22 at the Jernigan Institute.

The students are from Arizona, Ohio, New York, Georgia, Texas, Pennsylvania, Washington, Michigan, Colorado and Hawaii.

Wallops Shorts.....In the news

The Daily Times –

Letter to the Editor, "Wallops Island Flight Facility Marks 60 Years"

Eastern Shore News-

"Rocket Test at Wallops"

"Wallops Plays Part in Return to Flight"

"Scholarships Aid Space Camp Students"

Eastern Shore Post –

"NASA Visitor Center to Air Wednesday Launch"

"From Minotaur to Shuttle"

Letter to the Editor from John Campbell,

"Returning the Space Shuttle to Flight"

KRON-TV, San Francisco

KVVU-TV, Fox 5, Las Vegas

Yahoo and Forbes.com

"Blind Students Experience Careers in Rocket Science"

Wallops Blood Drive a Success



Photo By Rebecca Hudson

Dick Surran, Lockheed Martin, donates blood during the Eastern Shore Blood Bank Blood Drive held at Wallops on July 13. Wallops employees donated 77 pints of blood for the Blood Bank.

Travel Regulations

The NASA Financial Management Manual 9700, NASA Federal Travel Regulation Supplement has been replaced with a new release of the Financial Management Requirements (FMR) Volume 12: Travel.

The FMR can be accessed from the Travel Manager web site, Links, Financial Management Requirements, <http://www.hq.nasa.gov/cfo/internal/fmr/>

Note: For the full written policy, refer to the link identified above.

FMR 301.2-9 delegates the function of processing cables for country clearances for foreign travel to the NASA Centers.

FMR 301-2.11 an official passport is required when traveling on official government travel.



FMR 301-10.18 allows for full reimbursement of mileage cost for local travel. You will no longer be required to deduct the cost of normal commuting from your local travel claim.

FMR 301-11.225 (3) will be corrected to read; "The assignment is more than 30 days".

*Post payment travel reviews will begin in July 2005 for all domestic travel vouchers.



Security Reminder

Unless specifically authorized by NASA, employees and visitors are prohibited from carrying, transporting, introducing, or storing on any NASA property or facilities any firearms of any kind (to include BB rifles/pistols), any explosive devices, any knives with more than a 3-inch blade, or any other dangerous instruments or materials likely to produce substantial injury or damage to persons or property. For further information contact Jean Lopez at x2536 or Sonny Hall at x1357, Wallops Security Office.

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Creative Job Search

July 28

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Building E2

Career Coach Mary Mort will be conducting a workshop to teach how to have and prepare for a successful job search. One hour individual career coaching sessions for employees are available on July 28 between 1 – 4 pm and on July 29 between 9 a.m. – noon. To sign up for either event, contact Richard Billger at x2394.

Proposing To Win

August 16-18

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Building E-104, Room 310

This three-day workshop provides detailed, step-by-step instruction in the art of preparing and drafting winning proposals, with specific emphasis on AO's and other types of proposals commonly directed to GSFC audiences. Funding Source: GSFC-Center. Complete Goddard training request form 17-117 for registration. Registration information may also be obtained from Karla Kahler at 66-5378.

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* also may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: www.wff.nasa.gov

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